

# PEABODY MILL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

## Fall Programs through December 2008

PO Box 1045  
Amherst, NH 03031

603-673-1141  
[www.pmec.org](http://www.pmec.org)



Please visit our website at [www.pmec.org](http://www.pmec.org) for more information. Register online at [www.amherstrec.org](http://www.amherstrec.org) or call us at 603-673-1141. All programs require pre-registration.

### Under the Moon Hikes

Join us for stories and a walk in the woods along easy paths that accommodate people of all ages. Let PMEC help you find your way around the night sky. Bring a flashlight to help you navigate uneven terrain.

#### When: Full Moon Hikes

Saturday, 10/11 at 7:00PM

Friday, 11/14 at 7:00PM

Friday, 12/12 at 7:00PM

#### New Moon Hikes

Saturday, 10/25 at 7:00PM

Friday, 11/28 at 7:00PM

Saturday, 12/27 at 7:00PM

Where: Usually PMEC (please call 673-1141 to confirm)

Fee: \$6 Amherst Resident, \$8 Nonresident

\$15 Amherst Resident family (3+ people), \$20 Nonresident family (3+ people)

### Leave No Child Inside - An Evening in the Woods

Send your child to the PMEC to reconnect with nature! The Joe English reservation is an enchanting place at night. Your child will love outdoor activities such as star gazing, night hikes, and observing animal habitats. Once inside, children will enjoy snacks, games and crafts. Each child will come home with a nature themed craft. Children must be school aged. Please dress your child in appropriate outdoor clothing. Children grades K-8.

When: 10/10, 11/14, & 12/12

Where: PMEC

Time: 6:00-9:00PM

Fee: \$20 Amherst Resident/night, \$30 Nonresident/night

### Fishing Rentals

Rent a rod, reel and tackle for only \$5. We'll even throw in the bait!

Fishing in our pond is catch & release. A license is required for 16 and over. Rent in person during PMEC hours of operation. First come, first served.

Do you want to learn to fish, but don't know where to start? Instruction is available. Please call ahead to arrange. Interested in renting mid-week? Call us at 673-1141 and we'll see if we can accommodate your request.

When: Saturday & Sunday

Time: 12:00-4:00PM

Fee: \$5

### GPS Rentals

Have you always wanted to use a GPS, but don't even know how they work? Rent a GPS unit! Basic instruction is available. Rent in person during PMEC hours of operation.

Interested in renting mid-week? Call us at 673-1141 and we'll see if we can accommodate your request.

When: Saturday & Sunday

Time: 12:00-4:00PM

Fee: \$10

### **Snowshoe Rentals**

Snowshoes are available in a variety of sizes for <30 lbs. to >220 lbs. If you can walk, you can snowshoe! Rent in person during P MEC hours of operation. Interested in renting mid-week? Call us at 673-1141 and we'll see if we can accommodate your request.

When: Saturday & Sunday as soon as it snows.

Time: 12:00-4:00PM

Fee: \$4 per person Noon-4PM or \$10 for 24 hour rental.

### **Hunter Education for Hikers**

Join an informal discussion on how hikers and hunters can share the woods safely and respectfully. A short field trip is planned, so please dress appropriately. Presented by NH Fish & Game.

When: Saturday, 10/4

Where: P MEC

Time: 1:00-2:30pm

Fee: Free

### **Leave No Child Inside- School Vacation Day Programs**

Are you wondering what your children will do on their school vacation days? Send them to the P MEC where they'll spend the day learning about and enjoying nature! Content topics vary from day to day depending on weather. Enjoy indoor & outdoor activities such as Hiking, Fishing, Animal Tracking, Nature Crafts, Songs, Stories, and Games! Bring snack, drink(s), and lunch (if staying all day). Dress your child in appropriate clothing including layers for outdoor activities. Please pack an extra set of clothing, shoes, and socks.

When: Monday 10/13 (Columbus Day), Tuesday 11/11 (Veteran's Day), Wednesday 11/26 & Friday 11/28 (Thanksgiving Recess), Friday 12/26 & Monday 12/29 - Friday 1/2 (Winter Break).

Where: P MEC

Time: Half Day 9:00AM-Noon or 1:00-4:00PM

Full Day 7:30AM-5:30PM

Fee: \$20 Half Day Amherst Resident, \$30 Half Day Nonresident

\$40 Full Day Amherst Resident, \$50 Full Day Nonresident

\$175 Full Week Amherst Resident, \$185 Full Week Nonresident

### **Joe English Discovery Hike**

Join experienced hiker and 2007 Amherst Citizen of the Year, Bill Wichman, for an educational walk in the woods. Learn the history of the Joe English Reservation; discuss our native wildlife; and discover which plants and trees are invasive foreigners. Participants should bring open minds and comfortable walking shoes.

When: Saturday, 10/11

Where: P MEC

Time: 1:00-2:00PM.

Fee: Free

### **Grapevine Wreath Making**

Come take a little walk with us and gather nature's bounty for a beautiful wreath for your front door. Please bring hand clippers if you have them.

When: Saturday, 10/18

Where: P MEC

Time: 1:00-3:00PM

Fee: \$10 Amherst Resident, \$20 Nonresident

### **PMEC Grapevine Cutting Ceremony**

Join us for a celebration of community spirit at the Peabody Mill Environmental Center Grapevine Cutting Ceremony. This celebration will mark the culmination of the mission to create a sustainable environmental center. Help us recognize and acknowledge the many great contributors and contributions to this project. Tour the new sustainable building and the PMEC grounds and visit with honored guests. Learn about geothermal heating and cooling; and other ways that our new environmental center promotes sustainability. Enjoy live music, food, and PMEC program demos. In order to alleviate the environmental impact of our many cars on Brook Road and to eliminate parking issues, we have arranged a shuttle bus service from the Amherst Commons to the PMEC. Call us at Amherst Recreation 603-673-6248 or visit us at [www.pmec.org](http://www.pmec.org) or [amherstrec.org](http://amherstrec.org) for more information.

When: Sunday, 10/19

Where: PMEC

Time: 2:00-4:00PM

Fee: Free

### **How to Survive in the Wilderness Hike**

Are you a casual hiker who wants to know more about hiker safety and survival? Join Mountain Man, Chas Terry, for a stroll through the Joe English woods while learning about hiker safety and survival. Chas will discuss hiking safety, hiking during hunting season, and survival skills. This is a great way to familiarize yourself with the trails adjacent to PMEC. Please wear appropriate footwear and bring water to drink.

When: Saturdays, 10/25 & 11/15

Where: PMEC

Time: 1:00-3:00PM

Fee: \$6 Amherst Resident, \$8 Nonresident

\$15 Amherst Resident family, \$20 Nonresident family

### **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Nature Spooktacular**

Crawl on in for an afternoon of fun for all ages! Costumes encouraged. Enjoy educational booths, crafts, and a concession stand. Visit misunderstood creatures such as spiders, snakes, and bugs. Youngsters can crawl through our soil tunnel and discover what lives underground.

Afternoon Presentations:

1:00- Misunderstood Animals with Squam Lake Science Center

2:00- Spooktacular Creatures with NH's Wildlife Encounters.

3:00- Storytelling and Music

When: Sunday, 10/26

Where: Souhegan High School

Time: 1:00-4:00PM

Fee: \$5 Amherst Resident, \$6 Nonresident

### **HeartPounders - Scary Stories for the Strong at Heart**

Looking for a bit of spine tingling this Halloween? Join us on Halloween night for an evening of dark and spooky stories with renowned storyteller Odds Bodkins. Odds Bodkins' character-voice and music-filled storytelling style has been mesmerizing listeners, young and old, for twenty-four years. This program is suitable for adults and older children.

When: Friday, 10/31

Where: Souhegan High School

Time: 8:30PM

Fee: \$8 Amherst resident, \$10 Nonresident

### **Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities (SOLO) Wilderness First Aid**

Become certified in SOLO Wilderness First Aid (WFA). SOLO courses are designed for trip leaders, park rangers, outdoor educators, mountain and river guides, and outdoor enthusiasts who want to know how to prevent accidents as well as how to cope when the unexpected occurs. SOLO's "hands-on" approach trains you to act competently in the kind of emergencies you are most likely to encounter. More info on SOLO can be found at: <http://soloschools.com>. Box lunch will be provided. Please wear comfortable clothing, including walking/hiking shoes.

When: Saturday & Sunday, 11/22 & 11/23

Where: P MEC

Time: 9:00AM-5:00PM

Fee: \$175 Amherst Resident, \$185 Nonresident

### **Amherst Tree Lighting Ceremony**

Please join us before the tree lighting ceremony at the Fire Station to create a nature craft and visit with P MEC staff and volunteers!

When: Sunday, 12/14

Where: Amherst Fire Station

Time: 2:00-4:00PM

Fee: Free

### **Fall Strollers**

Join us for our weekly easy trail walks exploring the diversity of our conservation lands at various locations. Be sure to register for these strolls the Wednesday before. Hikes meet at the P MEC parking lot. Instructor: Barbara Wilkins.

Who: Adults & Seniors

When: Fridays, 9/5-10/17, 10/31-11/21

Where: Conservation Land

Time: 10:30AM -12:00PM

Fee: Free

### **Into the Woods – A Preschooler & Parent Nature Discovery Adventure**

Parents and toddlers (3-5 yr. olds) will love our diverse nature program designed to engage young minds. On site and off site adventures planned. You'll enjoy activities such as hiking, animal tracking, story time and crafts.

When: Tuesdays, 9/16-10/21

Where: P MEC

Time 1:00-2:00PM

Fee: \$35 Amherst Resident, \$45 Nonresident

### **Wilderness Skills for Homeschoolers**

This program blends nature education, team building, and self-expression. Students will explore animal behavior in winter, discuss sensible human behavior for cold weather, and possibly build a snow shelter. Other activities (weather permitting) will include fishing, snowshoeing, and animal tracking.

When: Thursdays, 10/9-11/6

Where: P MEC

Time: 12:30-3:30pm

Fee: \$80 Amherst Resident, \$90 Nonresident

### **Monthly Creature Feature**

How long can a beaver hold its breath for? What is the only bird that can fly backwards? Do frogs drink through their skin? Why do only the female mosquitoes bite? Learn the answers to questions like these and more during "Creature Feature" at the Peabody Mill Environmental Center. This monthly program is geared towards people of all ages who want to see live animals up close and personal. Those brave enough might get the chance to hold or touch one of our featured creatures. A different local or exotic animal will be featured each Saturday.

When: Saturdays, 10/4, 11/1, 12/6

Where: P MEC

Time: 2:00-3:00PM

Fee: Free to Amherst Residents (donations accepted), \$1 Nonresidents

### **Live Free and Eat Pie - Tales of New Hampshire**

#### **A Fireside Chat**

Join us for an evening of nature stories with a twist. Stories speak to us of community. They hold our history and reflect our identity. Rebecca Rule has made it her mission over the last ten years to collect stories of New England, especially those that reflect what's special about this rocky old place. She'll tell some of those stories -- her favorites are the funny ones - and invite audience members to contribute a few stories of their own.

When: Saturday, 10/18

Where: P MEC

Time: 7:00PM

Fee: \$5 Amherst Residents, \$6 Nonresidents

### **Scouting Programs**

If you and your scout group love to spend a Saturday morning earning a badge, doing a "Try It", or just having fun learning about nature and the environment then let P MEC work with you to develop a program. The P MEC has talented naturalist and science teachers available to give your scouts a wonderful learning experience that they won't soon forget! If Saturday morning doesn't work out for your group, please call to see if we can schedule your program for another day.

**P MEC is sponsoring these activities for Swift Water Council's Fish Bowl:**

#### **Girl Scout Moccasin Walk for Juniors**

Are you fascinated by other cultures? Immerse yourself in the world of Native Americans. Explore the customs of early Americans through storytelling, dance, and games. Participate in a sacred circle dance; learn to communicate using only facial expressions; discover Native American artifacts; and more.

*Please register through Girl Scouts of Swift Water at 603-627-4158 or 800-654-1270. You can also visit their Web site at: [www.swgirlscouts.org](http://www.swgirlscouts.org).*

When: Saturday, 10/18

Where: P MEC

Time: 10:00AM-2:00PM

#### **Girl Scout Amazing Animal Adventures for Brownies**

Have you ever seen a porcine trail? Or the rabbit freeway? Discover that some mammals use tables. Whose home is this and how was it built? Find evidence that some animals are neatnicks. Join us as we track evidence of the numerous animals that surround Peabody Mill Environmental Center. Girls will be working towards the Watching Wildlife Try-It.

*Please register through Girl Scouts of Swift Water at 603-627-4158 or 800-654-1270. You can also visit their Web site at: [www.swgirlscouts.org](http://www.swgirlscouts.org).*

When: Saturday, 10/25

Where: P MEC

Time: 10:00AM-2:00PM

*Do you hate taking the garbage to the transfer station every week? Have someone else do the dirty work and help us earn some extra cash! Sign up for weekly trash removal through H2O waste disposal services and they'll give PMEC \$20 every 3 months. Unlike most waste removal services, H2O even recycles! Be sure to mention Friends of PMEC when you sign up! More info is available at: <http://byebyedump.com/pmec.htm> or by calling 603-732-0961*

*The Friends of PMEC are collecting old cell phones and ink/toner cartridges to raise funds. Drop off boxes are located at the PMEC, the Amherst Town Hall & Amherst Library.*